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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.  
500 S. GRAND AVENUE  
SUITE 1900  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611

EXAMINER

PAK, SUNG H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2874

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/605,227

Applicant(s)

KUBA, YUTAKA

Examiner

Sung H. Pak

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 19 June 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

In response to the applicant's amendment filed 6/19/2002, all the requested changes to the claims have been entered. The pending claims of the application have been carefully reconsidered in view of the amendment and the remarks, however they are still deemed unpatentable. Due to the amended limitations, the previous ground of rejection has been changed accordingly. Since the change in the ground of rejection was necessitated by the amendment, this action is made final.

### ***Drawings***

The proposed drawing correction and/or the proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on 6/19/2002 has been accepted. A proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miura et al (US 5,748,822).

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Miura et al discloses an optical module with all the limitations set forth in the claims, including: a substrate having a groove in a surface of the substrate (Fig. 11a); an electric connection terminal provided on the substrate (Fig. 11b); an optical element provided on the substrate, the optical element being connected with the electric connection terminal (Fig. 11b); at least a portion of the light transmitter fixed in the groove and optical coupled with the optical element (Fig. 11c, 11d).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beckwith (US 5,615,292) in view of Miura et al (US 5,748,822).

Regarding claims 1-4, 7-11, 13-16, Beckwith discloses a fiber optic terminator module with all the limitations set forth in the claims, except it does not teach the use of substrates having grooves and at least a portion of the optical device disposed in the groove. Beckwith teaches the use of fiber holding portion on one end of the optical packaging and a free-standing optical devices mounted on the substrate for coupling optical fibers and optical devices (Fig. 4b).

Specifically, Beckwith discloses: first and second substrates, the first substrate having an electrical connection terminals ("6" in Figs. 3, 4b); the second substrate having an optical receiver, optical transmitter and optical signal processing circuits ("9,10,11,12" in Fig. 4b); ends of optical fibers being fixed onto the substrate aligned with the optical transmitter and receiver (Fig. 4b); protector cover formed for protecting optical components (Fig. 1 and column 2 lines 31-41); a connector adapted for mating with the electrical connection terminal having a reception space having a spring connection arrangement that leads to the electric circuit board ("7" in Fig. 4b).

Miura et al, on the other hand, explicitly teaches the use of optical packaging substrates with v-grooves for mating optical fibers with optical transceiver devices and disposing at least a portion of the optical devices in a substrate groove (Fig. 11). Such use of substrate grooves for optical packaging is commonly used in the art, and it is advantageous over the prior art devices because it provides an accurate alignment between the optical fibers and optical devices. Improved alignment minimizes optical coupling loss and improves the system performance. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beckwith device to have grooves on the substrate.

Regarding claims 5-6, Beckwith discloses a fiber optic connector module with all the limitations set forth in the claims, as discussed above, except it does not teach the use of planar waveguide circuit. However, such planar waveguide circuit is well known and commonly used in the art. Such planar waveguide circuits provide a well known

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advantage of being compact and energy efficient. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Beckwith device to have planar waveguide circuit. It would have been desirable to have a compact and energy efficient optical circuit.

Regarding claims 12 and 17, Beck with discloses a fiber optic connector module with all the limitations set forth in the claims, as discussed above, except it does not teach the use of connector body being made of a material having a thermal conductivity higher than the first base member. However, such casing material is well known and commonly used in the art. It provides a well known advantage of providing an effective means for heat sink. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Beckwith device to have the connector body made of a material having a higher thermal conductivity. It would have been desirable to have a connector with effective heat sink means.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sung H. Pak whose telephone number is (703) 308-4880. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday : 6:30am-5:00pm.


The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



sp  
August 20, 2002

Sung H. Pak  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2874



Rodney Bovernick  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800